

A NEW SPECIES OF MARTINIUS FROM CUBA (COLEOPTERA: LIMNICHIDAE)

By T. J. SPILMAN¹

The Thaumastodinae of the Limnichidae, according to my recent study (1959, Coleop. Bull. 13(4):111-122, 30 figs.), included three genera and four species from India, Philippines, the Malay peninsula, and Panama. The only member from the Western Hemisphere was *Martinius tellipontis* Spilman, from Panama. Now another western member must be added; an undescribed species of this genus was discovered by Fernando de Zayas in Cuba. Señor de Zayas generously sent the specimens for study.

A new observation on the morphology of all members of the Thaumastodinae should be presented before describing the new species. The orientation of the metatarsal claws of the Thaumastodinae is odd. The apices of the claws are directed toward the morphologically anterior surface of the leg, not toward the morphologically ventral surface, as is usual in most insects and as is the condition in the protarsal and mesotarsal claws of the Thaumastodinae. The reason for this odd orientation is in the attitude in which the whole metathoracic leg is positioned and moved. The parts of the leg do not rotate on the leg axis; the morphologically anterior surface always faces ventrally and the morphologically ventral surface faces posteriorly or toward the body's midline, depending on the flexure of the leg at any one time. Certainly the plate-like, immobile metacoaxae contribute to the lack of rotation, and the coxa-trochanter and trochanter-femur joints do not appear capable of rotation. Now, if the claws of these beetles were directed toward the leg's morphologically ventral surface, they would not be effective in gripping the surface of the ground below the beetle. Because the anterior surface of the metathoracic leg does face the ground, the claws are directed in what seems to be an abnormal position, toward the morphologically anterior surface. The claws thus come into contact with the ground.

Perhaps the metatarsal claws are not the only parts of the leg with an odd orientation; the metatarsal segments themselves may have their morphologically anterior surfaces directed ventrally. The orientation of these segments is not so easily determinable because the segments are cylindrical and do not have good reference points of direction as do claws. Yet, one characteristic of these segments might give a slight clue that the segments have the same orientation as do the claws: the long, coarse setae at the apices of segments 1-3 are on what appears to be the morphologically anterior surface, not on the morphologically ventral surface, as one might expect and as is the case in the protarsal and mesotarsal segments. However, not much weight can be attached to the position of these setae, because setae on beetle legs often occur or develop coarseness without any definite regard to morphological orientation. The

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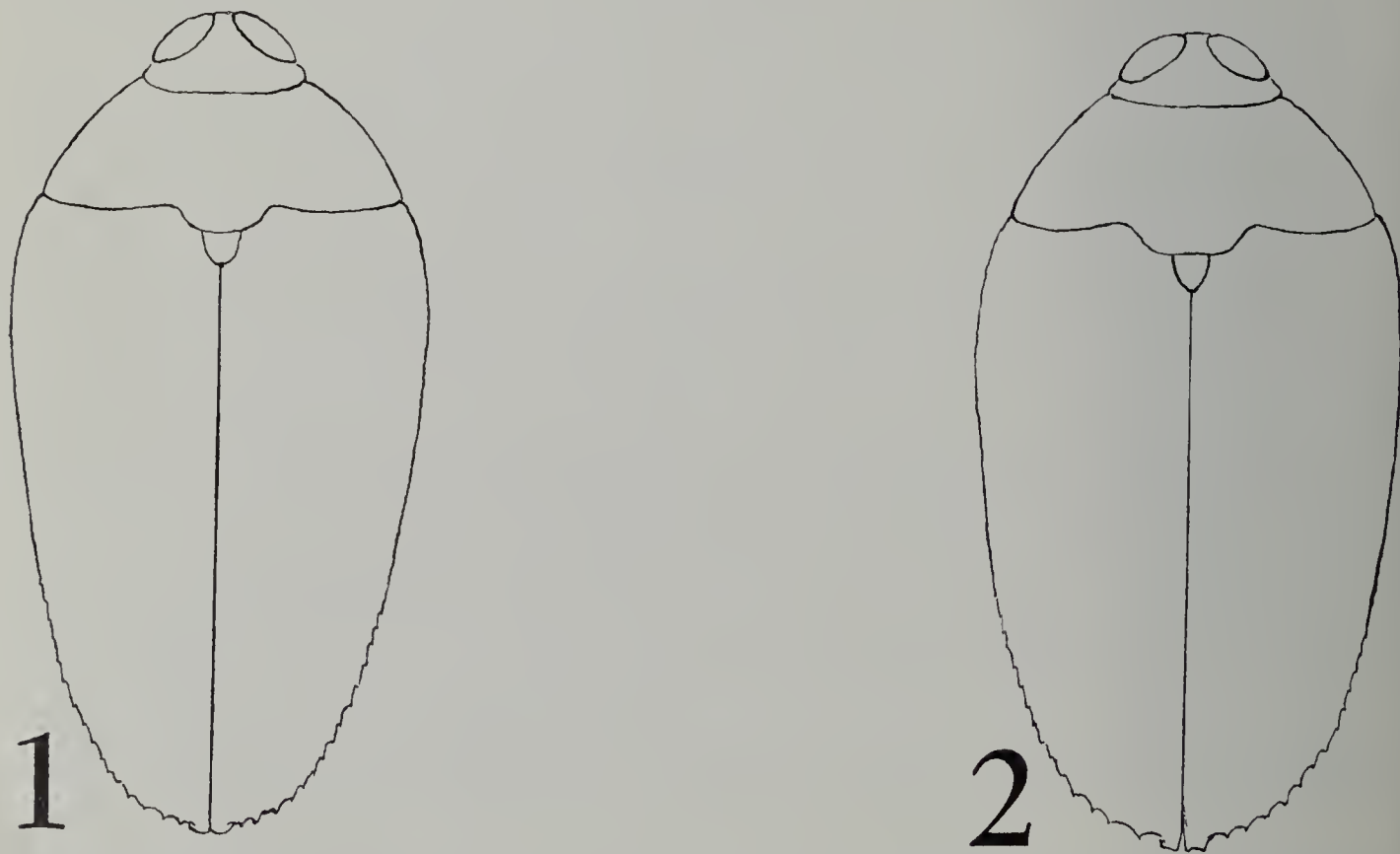
direction of the setae on the metatarsus in the Thaumastodinae, that is, orientation toward the surface of the ground below the beetle, has the same effect as the position of the claws; it provides a good grip on the ground.

In the two preceding paragraphs I have used the terms 'morphologically ventral surface' and 'morphologically anterior surface' as if each leg always had its longitudinal axis held perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the body and as if the leg were always completely extended, with the femur-tibia flexure always ventral. Thus, difficulties of determining correct orientation of legs and of describing surfaces of those legs are avoided. It is a simple arrangement used by many entomologists; unfortunately it has not been commonly adopted by coleopterists. Such orientation would avoid the impossible terms 'inside' and 'outside' for leg surfaces.

Martinius ripisaltator Spilman, NEW SPECIES

Description. Similar to *Martinius tellipontis*, but differing as follows: In dorsal view, lateral border of pronotum and lateral border of elytra in posterior half slightly more convex (fig. 1); pronotal and elytral transverse convexity stronger; dorsoventral angulation of lateral borders of pronotum and elytra not so acute, not tending toward being explanate; long, coarse setae on tibiae and tarsi shorter and coarser, especially noticeable on metatibiae; generally smaller, length 2.35-2.60 mm., width 1.15-1.35 mm.; female with slightly longer setae on protibia and protarsus, sexual dimorphism thus not so distinct.

Specimens examined. Holotype, male, Cuba, Habana Province, sea-shore near Rio Santana, Marianao, June 1951, F. de Zayas. Allotype, female, same data as holotype. Paratypes, 32 males, 41 females, same data as holotype. All specimens in United States National Museum; type number 68186.

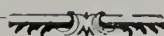


FIGURES 1-2. *Martinius* spp., body outline in dorsal view. 1—*ripisaltator*. 2—*tellipontis*.

The label name Rio Santana is probably a contraction of Rio Santa Ana. Señor de Zayas sent the following note with the specimens. "This species lives on the moist sand among the mangroves and 'dog-teeth' limestone in the intertidal zone. The locality is very near the mouth of the river, about 10 miles west of Habana. The beetles are very active and jump like fleas and fly, so collecting them is very difficult. To collect them I made several fast runs along the intertidal zone, holding the net about an inch above the ground."

The new species described above can be differentiated from the one previously described in the following manner.

Body outline in dorsal view as in fig. 1; metatibia with longest seta, excluding setae on apex, not longer than second metatarsal segment; from Cuba	-----RIPISALTATOR Spilman
Body outline in dorsal view as in fig. 2; metatibia with longest seta, excluding setae on apex, longer than second metatarsal segment; from Panama	-----TELLIPONTIS Spilman



CYRTOBAGOUS HUSTACHE, A GENUS OF WEEVILS NEW TO THE UNITED STATES FAUNA (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE: BAGOINI)

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The following specimens of *Cyrtobagous singularis* Hustache (1929, p. 228), a monobasic genus, were found at the ultraviolet collecting light at the Archbold Biological Station, near Lake Placid, Highlands Co., Florida: one, 7 June, 1962; four, 28 May, 1964. The species was originally described from Curumba, Matto Grosso, Brazil. I have an additional specimen from Parque Sooretama, Linhares, Espirito Santo, Brazil. One specimen in the United States National Museum collection was intercepted on an airplane from Mexico. Material in the British Museum (N. H.), determined by R. T. Thompson, was seen from Obidos, Brazil, April, 1963, F. D. Bennett, on *Salvinia*, and Ogle Estate, British Guiana, October, 12, 1961, F. D. Bennett, on *Salvinia auriculata*. The present deter-

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